New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework



NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WINTER 1999

FRAMEWORK

C U R R I C U L U M .



NEW JERSEY WORLD LANGUAGES CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

A Document in Support of the Core Curriculum Content Standards for World Languages

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NEW JERSEY WORLD LANGUAGES CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

Visit the *World Languages Curriculum Framework* on the New Jersey State Department of Education Web Site:

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YOUR FEEDBACK IS ENCOURAGED!

The New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework, like the standards themselves, is intended to be a "living" document, subject to periodic review and revision. Comments and suggestions regarding the Framework should be submitted to the New Jersey State Department of Education (Attention: World Languages Coordinator).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	ew Beginning for World Languages in New Jerseyxivgements
Introduction	n to the New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework
	Historical Perspective
Chapter 1	RATIONALE FOR THE STUDY OF WORLD LANGUAGES
	Benefits of World Language Study
	World Languages at the Elementary Level:
	The Optimum Starting Point
Chapter 2:	THE ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS OF
	AN EFFECTIVE WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAM
	Language Acquisition for All Students
	Communicative Proficiency: The Characteristics
	of Proficiency-Based Instruction
	Articulation: The K-12 Continuum
	The Student-Centered, Authentic Classroom
	The Interdisciplinary Connection
	Cross-Content Workplace Readiness and Systems Thinking
	Summary of the Essential Components of an Effective New Jersey World Language Program
Chapter 3:	RESTRUCTURING THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
	Scheduling and Restructuring the School Day
	Staffing Options21
	Other Models
	Instructional Materials24
	The Role of Technology

Chapter 4:	LINKING THE STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK
	TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
	The New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards
	and Indicators for World Languages
	Developing District Curriculum
Chapter 5:	THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS
	World Languages in the Elementary School 40
	World Languages in the Secondary School
	Multiple Entry Points
	Choice of Languages
	The Classical Languages
	The Less Commonly Taught Languages 50
	The Role of Grammar
Chapter 6:	RETHINKING ASSESSMENT
	A New Paradigm
	Key Components of Assessment
	Assessment Alternatives
	Assessment Rubrics
	Local Assessment
	State Assessment
Chapter 7:	INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND
onaptor 71	STUDENT LEARNING CHARACTERISTICS
	Instructional Strategies
	Student Learning Characteristics and Learning Styles 61
Chapter 8:	PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS/ LIFELONG LEARNING
-	Professional Development
	Teacher Preparation

Chapter 9:	THE EFFECT OF THE WORLD LANGUAGES STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK ON THE NEW JERSEY COMMUNITY		
	Students		
	Teachers		
	Administrators		
	Parents		
	Business Community		
	College and University Programs		
Chapter 10:	LEARNING SCENARIOS		
	Introduction to the Learning Scenarios		
	Description of the Scenario Format		
	Thematic Grade Level Index		
	The Scenarios		
	K-4 Scenarios		
	5-8 Scenarios		
	9-12 Scenarios		
	Thematic Scenarios K-4 through 9-12		
Chapter 11:	K-12 WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAMS		
	IN CURRENT PRACTICE		
	Springfield, Massachusetts		
	Culver City, California		
	Elmhurst, Illinois		
	Ferndale, Michigan		
	A K-12 Program in Eastern Connecticut		
	Model Early Foreign Language Programs 1998 (CAL) 185		

Chapter 12: INSTRUCTIONAL ADAPTATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DIVERSE NEEDS

Part One: Adaptations for Students with Disabilities	. 191
Introduction	. 192
Descriptions of Adaptations	. 195
Sample Adaptations	. 202
References	. 214
Part Two: Adaptations for Exceptionally Able (Gifted) Learners	s . 215
Introduction	. 217
Adaptation Strategies	. 217
Types of Adaptations	. 222
References	224

APPENDICES .	
Appendix A:	ACTFL GUIDELINES
	ACTFL Performance Guidelines for K-12 Learners (Figure 1) 229
Appendix B:	ASSESSMENTS
	General Information
	Assessment Profile (Figure 2)
	Ideas for Exhibitions and Projects (Figure 3) 235
	Student Portfolio Artifacts (Figure 4)
	Sample Assessment Rubrics
	Generic Rubrics for World Language Tasks (Figure 5) 238
	Assessing the Quality of Portfolios (Figure 6) 240
	Rating Scales (Figure 7)
	Example of a Holistic Rating Scale (Figure 7A)241
	Example of an Analytic Rating Scale (Figure 7B) 241
	Rubrics for Assessment of American Sign Language (Figure 8)
	Expressive Skills (Figure 8A)
	Receptive Skills (Figure 8B)
	Oral Activity Self-Evaluation (Figure 9) 244
	Oral Report Assessment (Figure 10)
	Story Evaluation (Figure 11)
	Expressing a Point of View (Figure 12)
	Story Retelling Checklist: Self-Assessment (Figure 13) 248
	Sample District and State Assessment Models (Figures 14-23) 249

Appendix C:	Methodology for Innovative Instruction
	in K-12 World Language Programs
	Natural Approach (Figure 24)
	Password/Language Ladders (Figure 25)
	Gouin Series (Figure 26)
	Dialogue Journals (Figure 27)
	Total Physical Response (TPR) (Figure 28)
	TPR Storytelling (Figure 29)
	Interviews (Figure 30)
	Cloze (Figure 31)
	Continuums (Figure 32)
	Interactive Language Tasks (Figure 33)
	Cultural Presentations (Figure 34)
	The Learning Cycle (Figure 35)
	Read and Retell (Figure 36)
	Literature, History, and Storytelling (Figure 37) 270
	Cooperative Learning (Figure 38)271
	Brainstorming (Figure 39)
	Problem Solving (Figure 40)
	Reflective Thinking (Figure 41)
	Field Experience (Figure 42)
	Free Writing (Figure 43)
Appendix D:	Instructional Strategies
	Strategies for Students with Diverse Talents
	Planning for Multiple Intelligences in the
	Classroom (Figure 44)
	Multiple Intelligences Grid of Ideas (Figure 45)
	Planning Model Using Bloom's Taxonomy (Figure 46) 279
	World Languages and Bloom's Taxonomy (Figure 47) 281

	Strategies for Exceptionally Able (Gifted) Students
	Strategies for Exceptionally Able Students (Figure 48) . 282
	Strategies for Students with Specific Learning Needs
	Considerations for Meeting Specific Learning
	Needs in Skill and Instructional Areas (Figure 49) 283
Appendix E:	Graphic Organizers (Figures 50-58)
Appendix F:	Key Terms for Teacher Preparation
	Model Methods Course: Elementary Level (Figure 59) 296
	Model Methods Course: Secondary Level (Figure 60) 297
Appendix G:	Cross-Content Workplace Readiness and
	Systems Thinking
	Illustrations of the Interdisciplinary, Systems Thinking
	Approach
	GLOSSARY306
	REFERENCES
	TEACHER RESOURCES

PREFACE

The New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework is a resource and guide for educational communities as they restructure their schools to align existing world language curricula with the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The standards reflect the goals for world language learning and are the basis for the future of well-articulated, extended-sequence world language programs in the state of New Jersey. These standards ensure not only a vertical articulation from one grade level to the next, but also a horizontal articulation reaching across the entire school curriculum. Students will be expected to develop communicative and cultural competence in a language in a progressive fashion along the continuum of the learning process. Students will use language to access information and resources. In addition, they will transfer knowledge acquired outside the world language classroom to the language learning process.

New Jersey emphasizes the importance of every student linking school-based learning with a career theme and having both school-based and work-based learning experiences. The five *Cross-Content Workplace Readiness Standards* are therefore included in this *World Languages Framework*.

This *Framework* is designed to be used by educators who practice in a variety of teaching environments from Kindergarten through Grade 12 (e.g., world language teachers/specialists and classroom teachers). Administrators, school board members, parents, local business leaders, and members of the community are also urged to utilize this *Framework* to assist them in creating and communicating a district vision of standards-driven world language classrooms. Participation in both the process and outcomes encourages the development of new strategies, the finding of additional resources, and a sense of energy and commitment to the teaching and learning of world languages.

This document presents broad, overarching concepts and ideas to assist in the development of district goals, curriculum, and instruction. It provides an overview of new instructional strategies and assessments that will enable educators to create supportive and effective learning environments.

This *Framework* acknowledges the practical difficulties involved in implementing an articulated sequence of K-12 world language programs. The guidelines and resources offered in this document will facilitate this transition process. The driving force in making the vision of the standards a reality is the belief that all New Jersey students should become functionally fluent in at least one world language other than English, as well as skilled in negotiating in other cultures as they make the transition from school to their life's work.

VISION: A NEW BEGINNING FOR WORLD LANGUAGES IN NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework envisions the following:

- A well-articulated K-12 world language program that prepares all students to actively and effectively participate in the dynamic global community of the 21st century
- A continuous sequence of language learning, firmly grounded in research on second-language acquisition, that is integrated into the core curriculum
- An instructional sequence that provides opportunities to use language through meaningful, interactive experiences, enriched by culturally authentic content, and transacted as a cumulative and spiraling process

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